Stephen J. W. Tabor,

THE

SMOKER'S, CHEWER'S,

AND

SNUFF-TAKER'S COMPANION,

AND

TOBACCONISTS

OWN BOOK.

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OWN BOOK.

Being the best Defence of Tobacco ever written, exposing many popular errors that now exist against its use; and detailing its various

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Its Discovery, Persecution, and Introduction to all classes in America, and gradual Dissemination throughout the Globe!

NATURAL HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CURE

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"Bread or Tobacco may be neglected, but reason first recommends their trial, and custom makes them pleasant."—*Locke.*

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1841.

THE

SMOKER'S, CHEWER'S,

AND

SNUFF-TAKER'S COMPANION.

THE USE OF TOBACCO.

"I do assert, and will affirm it before any living person to be the most sovereign and precious weed that ever the earth tendered for the use of man." *Ben Jonson.*

It is almost as unnecessary to say anything in favor of a herb so much in use as Tobacco, as would be to demonstrate the good effects of the Tea plant, or the utility of the Coffee berry. Like its lovely sisters, Tobacco is now in general and constant demand; the violence of prejudice is rapidly vanishing before the experience of habit; the soothing effects of this invaluable addition to our enjoyments are now thoroughly understood and eagerly sought after. How many of our poorest fellow beings centre their scanty enjoyments in its various utility; the rich merchant enjoys its aroma in his splendid mansion, and the toil-worn artisan finds solace in its fumes. The poet delighteth to encircle his brows with the halo of its fragrance, and meditating amid the voluptuousness of its clouds, reacheth the seventh heaven of invention.

Tobacco, "o'er all the world holds sovereign sway;" We Americans receive a new warmth of republicanism as we enjoy the flavor of the Maryland leaf, or Virginia twist; even England and her own little knot of merry islets are deliciously edulcorated by its vapors. The nationality of the Emerald Isle would be effected, if the Irishman was deprived of his *dhudeen* and a pinch of Lundyfoot's blackguard. The Scotchman has long been conspicuous as the "the sign and token" of the trade; the sporran or tobacco pouch safely lodged in his philibeg, and *the bonnie mull* in one hand, whilst with the other he is treating his nasal promontory with a pinch of the almost impalpable Scotch, or the more modern Gillespie's Edinboro.' In England, as well as in our own country its use is universal—the tradesman shuts up his shop and enjoys his pipe; the farmer, after the market-day's dinner, relishes his heavy-bodied port with a whiff of returns; the sailor "chaws his backey," and cares not how short-cut the beef and biscuit may run, if pig-tail be in abundance; the military man, in barracks, or bivouac, is equally attentive to charging his Cigar case as his cartridge box. Who has not read the anecdote of the officer, who, during a night-watch of peculiar severity, discovered a solitary Cigar in his case, which he imagined had been empty: his sudden transition from the depths of wretchedness and suffering, to actual enjoyment, although beautifully described, is conceivable only by those who have similarly suffered.

Cigars are now positive adjuncts to our well-being. The light of a Cigar is the real Promethean spark, enlivening our society. With what delight do we taste, aye, breathe its balmy sweets after our glass and our meal; the unnatural excitement is over, and the re-action which is rapidly

taking place, would be painful in the extreme, but for the soothing effects of these brown-visaged companions. The smoke dispels all vapours but its own—it is, in reality, the circulating medium for all the better feelings of our nature. In the countries of which Tobacco is a native, it is considered by the Indians as the most valuable offering that can be made to the beings they worship. They use it in all their civil and religious ceremonies. When once the spiral wreaths of smoke ascend from the feathered pipe of peace, the compact that has just been made is considered as sacred and inviolable.

A celebrated author of the present day, distinguished alike for his talents and his social qualities, and in whose company the writer of these humble pages has smoked many a splendid Havannah, has so deliciously expressed his sentiments on the use of the fragrant weed, that no apology is necessary for their introduction here.

"How many are the moments in a man's life, (let us philosophize for an instant) when the mind, that metaphysical curiosity, that ethereal essence, ever present and never visible, refuses to fix itself; when it floats hither and thither, like the thistledown, seeking some object whereon it may find rest; when it wanders about from place to place without obtaining relief. There are times when neither an arm-chair, with a fender for a foot-stool—nor a gossip with a pair of glancing eyes—nor a stroll by moonlight—nor a song—nor a bottle though ever so old—nor a book though ever so new—can administer the particular balm which our fancies or our facuities require. No; there are certain periods of time, certain points of existence, when nothing in nature can enliven our drooping senses, restore a tone and tranquility to the mind, and perfectly satisfy all the wandering and undefined desires

of the moment, but a pinch—a full, fresh, fervent pinch of Snuff—pungent and unadulterated. There are occasions when the spirit of a man turns in weariness from the wonders that surround it—the glories of art—the enchantments of nature; and centres all its wants and wishes, soothes all its anxiety and disappointment, in a genuine Havanna. It is the only thing that precisely suits his case. "Blessings on the man," says Sancho, "that first invented sleep." But what wreaths shall we twine, what rewards shall we invoke, for the head of him that first invented smoke! Mysterious essence, emblem of our existence, type of our desires and our dreams, our graceful vanities, and shadowy ambition! A Cigar—the very word has a fragrance in it. The pen, as it writes, seems to acquire a rich brown hue, and pours forth, instead of cold and solemn syllables, oriental breath and delicious perfumes. Its odour transcends that of a rose, or a roast pig. Nothing in life is like the flavor of a real Cigar, to those who know how to enjoy it. All who smoke are not smokers. There are persons who prefer a bad Cigar to a good one, and who puff out as much cloud and vapour in a year as Mount Etna, without tasting a particle of it. Some French writer has said, that it is not every one that knows how to take a walk. It may as truly be asserted that it is not every one that knows how to smoke! But to those who are in the secret, your initiated few, to whom nature has given a finer sense of enjoyment, a divine perception of the beautiful—to these, the curling, cloudy column that rises from the lips is ethereal air, the element of a new life. It springs up as from an altar, and floats on the air like incense. Through the narrow tube of a Cigar rushes a full flood, a Mississippi of enthusiasm and delight, refreshing the senses and refining the imagination. Really, when honors and eulogies are showered

upon subjects whose claims upon our gratitude are so very apocryphal, something should be said or sung of the merits of a weed, that is hourly productive of a wise pleasure and a heathful recreation. If Steele or Pope had written within the last forty years instead of Sir Walter Scott and Wordsworth, the memory of this fragrant and familiar little ministrant to our comforts would be enshrined in golden verse, and periods full of grateful praise.

"But as all are not epicures, we will look at our subject in a less elevated light, and regard it merely as the medium of an elegant courtesy, a harmless indulgence, a simple but a social luxury. To Dr. Lardner, or any other learned labourer in science, who may assure us that smoke is stupifying and injurious, and that snuff produces sickness and intoxication, we should make a very pantomimic, but at the same time, a very philosophic reply: we should venture to hand him a choice Spanish from one of our precious repositories, and beg that he would do us the favor to take a pinch out of our private box. This is the argument we should resort to, and we think it would induce him to publish an errata in his next edition. If he declined, we would ask him, while he objected to Tobacco as a soother or a stimulant, what he thought of it as a convenience! What awkward pauses would sometimes occur in conversation, and what studies would steal occasionally over our studies. "We love," says a talented editor, (J. R. Chandler, Esq.,) of our city, in a modest defence of the magic powder, "to see the box go round—it strengthens old friends and creates new ones, and from what we have seen of past events, we think a man may take many a worse thing between his thumb and finger than a *pinch of snuff*." What a flood of care would break in upon our social and private enjoyments, if Col. Stone and his equally *hard* confederates had succeeded in banish-

ing the glorious weed from our soil, but thanks to the philosophy of our countrymen—they *chew* the delicious leaf instead of his arguments, and

> While there's leaves on a plant, or a foming mouth's river,
> The Smoker's and Chewer's shall flourish forever.

The banks may suspend payment, provided we have our banks of Tobacco, for without which society could not go on. Old Time would stand still, and, taking a pinch of sand, turn his hour glass into a snuff-box. A snuff-box is a letter of introduction; it has been the fountain of many friendships, even when you cannot ask a stranger his opinion of the new opera or the new cabinet, you can offer him your box, with a graceful as well as a profitable politeness. Even when the weather and other popular topics are exhausted, a pinch is always eloquent, always conversational, always convenient. And as for a Cigar, it is the very symbol of congeniality. You sit in a circle, and the smoke rises up in a visible union: it is like the meeting of souls. If you have nothing to say, it discourses with a sage and silent wisdom: if otherwise, it gives an elegant turn to your sentences, and comes in at a pause like a note of admiration! There is much virtue in a whiff.

"If we were in possession of another Elm tree, beneath which the great Penn smoked the pipe of peace with the Indians, and with the sacred cement of its ashes ratified 'the only treaty that was never broken,'(*Voltaire*) we would have it all turned into snuff-boxes, as the truest compliment that could be paid to the spirit of the immortal Quaker. And assuredly we would rather have the broken bowl of thy pipe, Tobias Shandy, or even a grain or two of the ashes that it held, than the arrow that pierced Achilles, or a lock of Cæsar's hair. We are well aware that there are learned men still living who contend that there is no enjoyment in

life; but then it is quite clear that their lips and their senses have never tasted the bliss-yielding plant—more sweet and exhilerating than the famed Ginsing of Chawwagna, the Chinese Mandarin. Once let them taste the magic of a richly flavoured leaf, over a cup of Coffee and a magazine just published, and the next treatise they may write will tell a tale marvellously different. They will find out that a Cigar, a Twist, or a Plug, are the true Sublime and Beautiful."

THE DISCOVERY OF TOBACCO.

Introduction into Europe, and Gradual Dissemination all over the Globe.

"Bravely done, my Hector of Troy, thou art as great as Alexander, and shalt be crowned with Tobacco instead of laurel.

Tobacconist, by Ben Johnston.

"Where'er the merchant spreads his wind-bleached sails,
Here too thy credit and thy use prevails."

Perhaps it never will be satisfactorily settled when and where the tobacco plant was first discovered. The Spanish Don, Ulloa, in his philosophic work on the discovery of America, has stated that it was known and smoked over all the countries of the east, long before the discovery of the New World, but he brings forward very little authority in support of such a startling assertion. Humboldt, the celebrated traveller, affirms that it was cultivated from time immemorial by the natives of Oronooko. Thomson, in his life of Raleigh, says, "When Columbus discovered America he found that in the religious ceremonies of the Indians, a plant was thrown into the fire, the smoke of which produced the same effects upon the officiating Piache, (priest) as, in the heathen superstitions of old, the strong vapours of Delphos did upon the Pythian priestess; answers were given, and pretended oracles delivered, under the influence

of a peculiar intoxication." This plant was Tobacco; which was probably used, also, as a luxury by the natives, for it was smoked over the whole of America, at the period of the Spanish conquest. There is reason for believing, that the first time the Spaniards saw Tobacco smoked, as a luxury, was at a friendly interview between Grijalva, a Spaniard, and the cacique or chief of Tabasco, in 1518. It was from the place of this interview, which is called Tabasco, or Tabaco, (an Island in the Gulf of Mexico,) that the plant received its name. In the following year, the Spanish general, Cortez, sent a present to his king Charles, as a specimen of the wealth and production of the territory he had conquered for him; and it was, as a part of this present, that Tobacco first found its way into Europe; when, through the Venetian and Genoese traders to the Levant, it was introduced into Turkey, Arabia and Persia, and the whole of Asia. It was not, however, until many years afterwards, that it attracted considerable notice. In 1561, some seeds of Tobacco were given by a Dutch planter to Jean Nicot, Lord of Villemain, a French nobleman, who was then the ambassador from Francis II. to the court of Portugal. Nicot sent them to his Queen, Catherine de Medicis, who afterwards patronised Tobacco as a medicine, (in powder;) thence it obtained the name of *Herbe a la Reine*, (Queen's Herb,) until her death. The generic name, Nicontiana, was given by Linnæus, the Swedish naturalist.

Tobacco then came under the patronage of Cardinal Santa Croce, the Pope's nuncio, who, returning, from his embassy at the Spanish and Portuguese courts, carried the plant to his own country, and thus acquired a fame, little inferior to that which, at another period, he had won, by piously bringing a portion of the *real* cross from the Holy Land. Both in France and in the Papal States, it was

at once received with general enthusiasm in the shape of Snuff; but it was some time after the use of Tobacco as Snuff, that the practice of smoking it commenced. Smoking is generally supposed to have been introduced into England by Sir Walter Raleigh; but Camden says in his "Elizabeth," that Sir Francis Drake and his companions, on their return in 1585, were the first as far as he knew, who introduced the Indian plant, called Tabacca, or Nicotia, into England; having been taught by the Indians to use it as *a remedy against indigestion.*

James Hardie, A. M. says, "Tobacco, which derives its name from Tobago, a South American Island, was first discovered by the Spaniards on Yucatan Island, in 1520. It was introduced into France, by *Nicot*, a French Navigator, hence the Botanical name Nicontina—It was brought to England by Mr. R. Lane, in 1586."

"The American Depos," an authentic work contains the following paragraph relative to our subject:—

The attempt to establish a colony in Virginia is rendered memorable by the first introduction of Tobacco into England—Cardie, who first visited Canada fifty years before, asserts that it was used by the natives in *fumagation.*—Richard Lane, on his return from Virginia to England in 1586 took a small quantity with him—Sir Walter Raleigh being a man of gaiety and fashion, soon introduced the smoking of it into fashionable circles. The Queen also indulged in its uses, and many anecdotes are still related on the subject—Raleigh laid a wager with the Queen that he would weigh all the smoke that came from her pipe, this he effected by first weighing the smoke and then the ashes; the queen on paying the wager remarked, that although she had known many labourers who turned gold into smoke, he was the first she had known could turn smoke into gold! It was also related that one of Raleigh's

servants upon entering the chamber where his lordship sat smoking, was so terrified at seeing the smoke coming out from his mouth, that he rushed from the apartment in the wildest alarm, crying out *that his master was on fire!*

Sir Walter Raleigh found Tobacco cultivated in Trinidad, on his first visit in 1593; but it was not introduced into Virginia until 1616, when its growth was commenced there under Sir Thomas Dale. It is now raised also in the Brazils, Demerara, Cuba, St. Domingo, Jamaica, Cape of Good Hope, China, India, and North America, where it has been most extensively cultivated.

Raleigh introduced the culture of Tobacco into Ireland, on his estate at Youghall, county Cork;* and it is still produced to a small extent in Carlow, Waterford, and Kilkenny, although it has ceased to be raised in England and Scotland, since 1782. Before that period, there were extensive growings in the North Riding of Yorkshire; and in the neighbourhood of Kelso in Scotland, not less than 1,000 acres were covered with it.

"It is at present cultured in most parts of the world, and no where more abundant than in the United States—We seldom see it north of Maryland. *Virginia*, is, perhaps, the region most celebrated for its culture."—*Dr. Wood.*

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* It was here, also, that Sir Walter first planted the potatoe, another invaluable discovery, brought by this philanthropist from his newly-discovered land.

PERSECUTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS.

"Let clamorous dames the weed with wrath pursue;
In quiet rest, nor heed the noisy shrew;
Light your Cigar, and spread the fragrant blast,
The storm that's loudest must subdue at last."

When we consider how much opposition has been offered to the use of Tobacco, and how numerous have been the legislative enactments against its enjoyment, frequently forbidden under pain of death, it speaks much in favor of our inestimable plant, that its virtues have at length been self enabled to triumph over the maledictions of the mighty. When the patriot Raleigh was in favour with Elizabeth, having named his discovery "*Virginia*," in honor of her royal but ancient maidenhood, the herb was in general request; even the ladies of the court indulged in the soul-soothments of the stranger; and some writers have affirmed that the Queen, herself, a giddy-minded woman, and ever fond of novelty, gave them an example. A walnut-shell and a straw were the first attempts at pipe making, and the herb was then so scarce, as frequently to sell for its weight in silver. The unfortunate Sir Walter experienced disgrace—Elizabeth published an edict against Tobacco, affirming, that by indulging in the same luxuries as barbarians, her subjects were themselves, likely to degenerate into barbarism! Sapient virginity!

Her successor, the pious James, the murderer of Raleigh, and the legislator on witchcraft, issued in 1603, his famous "*Counter-blaste to Tobacco*," a fitting emanation from the brain of this weak and narrow-minded monarch. Of course he hated his victim's importation, and did his best to crush it; the duty was augmented from 2*d.* to 6*s.* 10*d.* per lb This was meant as prohibitory, and the planters in the newly established colony, were forbidden to raise more than one hundred weight each in a year. The learned Joshua Silvester, to please his kingly patron, published a

work with the following singular and long-winded title, "Tobacco battered, and the Pipes shattered, (about the ears that idly idolize so base and barbarous a weed, or, leastwise, over love so loathsome a vanitie) by a volley of holy shot, thundered from Mount Helicon."

Notwithstanding this regal and priestly wrath, the use of the plant extended far and wide. It appears from a note in the Criminal Trials, vol. I. p. 361, that in 1600, the French ambassador in his despatches, represented the peers on the trial of the Earls of Essex and Southampton, as smoking Tobacco most vigorously while debating upon their verdict. Sir Walter smoked a pipe whilst walking to the scaffold.

Charles I. continued the excessive impost, and made Tobacco a royal monopoly. Charles II. wrote to the University of Cambridge, forbidding the members to wear periwigs, *smoke Tobacco*, or read sermons. It is needless to remark that Tobacco has not yet made its *exit* "*in fumo*," and that periwigs still continue to adorn the "*heads of houses*." In Russia, where the peasantry now smoke all day long, the Grand Duke of Moscow prohibited the entrance of Tobacco into his dominions, under the penalty of personal chastizement for the first offence, and death for the second; and the Muscovite, who was found snuffing, was condemned to have his nostrils split. So great, indeed, was the hostility of the government against Tobacco, in every form, that a particular Court of Law, for punishing of smokers, was instituted in 1634, and not abolished until the middle of the eighteenth century. In 1590, Shah Abbas forbade the use of Tobacco in Persia, by a penal law; but so firmly had the luxury rooted itself among his subjects, that many inhabitants of cities fled to the mountains, where they hid themselves, rather than forego the pleasure of smoking. In 1624, Pope Urban

VIII. anathematised all Snuff-takers who indulged in the habit in any church; and in 1690, Pope Innocent excommunicated all who indulged in that vice in the church of St. Peter at Rome. In 1625, the Grand Sultan, Amarath IV, prohibited all smoking, as an unnatural and irreligious custom, under pain of death: few, indeed, suffered the penalty, yet, in Constantinople, where the custom is now universal, smoking was thought to be so ridiculous and hurtful, that any Turk, who was caught in the act, was conducted in ridicule through the streets, with a pipe passed through his nose. Even in Switzerland, war was waged against the American herb; in 1653 all smokers were cited before the council of Appenzel, and several punished; and in 1661, the police regulations of the canton of Berne *placed the prohibition of smoking in the Ten Commandments*, immediately under that against adultery! and it was to be punished as an equal crime.

An amusing fact is related of Fagon, physician to Louis XIV., and serves well to illustrate the sincerity of opposition for fashion's sake. In the midst of a violent speech on the pernicious effects of Tobacco, Fagon made a pause; and taking a Snuff-box from his pocket, refreshed himself with a pinch, to enable him to renew the argument.

Nor have certain persecutors failed to reach it even in our own country. The public press has out of mistaken but doubtless honest zeal, gone so far as to denounce the chewers, and in particular *street Smokers* in almost every variety of terms. In Boston, street smoking is prohibited by law; in the execution of which an old wooden-legged soldier who had braved the smoke of war in our revolution was arrested and rudely dragged before the authorities for smoking in the street. In Philadelphia the prohibition of smoking in public extends only through the *Markets!* and the smoker is still at liberty to enliven his walk with a Cigar,

and long may he enjoy the sweet prerogative. No other states in the union have as yet interfered with the comforts of the Smoker, either in public or private. Look round our fair cities, every turn of the eye meets a neat shop and a Tobacco sign, and the honest and industrious dealers in the cigar, fine-cut, twist, plug, and pigtail, still yielding enjoyment and employment to thousands. How many boys and even females who can earn a comfortable living by virtue of the Tobacco trade would be left in idleness and misery were its uses prohibited, to say nothing of the very numerous and respectable class of opperatives, whose profession it is to prepare the leaf in its various useful forms. It is computed that one tenth of the population of the United States are employed in the cultivation and manufacture of Tobacco.

Like many other objects of severe persecution, Tobacco has triumphed over its enemies. It has become the custom and fashion of *all* nations, and experiences but a trifling opposition from the ignorant, the interested, or the tasteless.

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS.

"Tobacco, divine, rare, super-excellent Tobacco, which goes far beyond all their panaceas, portable gold, and philosopher's-stone. A sovereign remedy to all diseases; a virtuous herb, if it be well qualified, opportunely taken, and medicinally used."—*R. Burton's Anatomie of Melanchollie.*

A PARAGRAPH has lately gone the round of the papers, extracted from a medical work, asserting that the use of Tobacco is injurious in the extreme, and produces the very worst consequences upon the human frame. This is a pityful and "weak invention of the enemy," to all healthy usages, and wholesome enjoyments. Look around;—who is there that is not personally acquainted with some *old*

gentleman, who assures us he could not live without his pipe; this may be habit, but look at his jolly red face, and general appearance. Hear him tell how it assists digestion and enables him to puff away the cares of the world. He ought to know, for he has smoked three pipes each day for the last twenty years, and we are acquainted with a number of hearty, venerable and "ancient dames" who will sit and relate us scenes they have witnessed in our Revolution, while smoking the same pipe which they used during that memorable struggle! Americans generally are notorious for health and longevity, and are famed for their indulgence in the pipe, the plug, and the cigar—Look at our *half Dutch* population of Pennsylvania that overspread our vallies and mountains, their hale and ruddy complexion, their bold mascular frames, even at most advanced ages, and who are more devoted lovers of the glorious pipe; "*Von good schmoke mid de bibe*," is to them like their "*Sour Krout*," the very spice of luxury. Drs. Chapman, Thornton, and Walsh, recommend Tobacco as the best antidote to cold and fever. Dr. Cullen considers it a wholesome stimulant; Drs. Bates, Boyle, Fowler, Fuller, and Strother, bear witness to a variety of virtues. Dr. G. B. Wood notices its calming and soothing virtues, Dr. Chapman confidently recommends smoking as an efficacious remedy in a number of diseases—and it is found highly beneficial in cases of Hydrothorax or water in the chest. During the ravages of the plague in 1665, it was remarked that all smokers remained uninfected,—see Dr. Willis, with numerous pamphlets on the subject of the plague, all of which recommend the use of Tobacco as a preventive. And it is a well known fact, that during the rage of the *cholera* in Philadelphia and in New York, the cigar was used as a preventive by a number of inhabitants and attendants in the crowded hospitals and with

success—and in many instances it proved to be a disinfector—and the smoke of Tobacco was found beneficial in fumigation.

In an interesting account of the sufferings of eight men, inclosed for six days in the mine of Bois-Monzil, St. Etienne, a few years ago, it is stated that in the agonies of hunger, Brun had eaten his braces; Beraud ate part of his shirt, and the wicks of the lamps; but Antoine Dumas, having *a quid of Tobacco in his mouth, found it stand in lieu of everything.* Jean Teysot, the *ancien*, lost his senses for twenty-four hours; what contributed to overpower him was the want of snuff which he constantly complained of. When relief appeared, and broth and soups were distributed, the *ancien*, brought to his senses, asked only for a *pinch of snuff!*

A very curious circumstance is connected with its cultivation in Virginia, and well deserving the attention of the ladies. In the beginning of the seventeenth century, the London company, which was established for the cultivation of Virginia, with a view to the steadiness of the planters, who were all bachelors, sent out a number of respectable young women, to supply the settlers with wives. These ladies were actually sold for one hundred and twenty pounds of Tobacco each, being the amount of the expenses of the voyage. Ladies! this is but one of the many beneficial effects arising from the use of Tobacco.

Among the many facts which go to show the benefits resulting from the use of Tobacco, it can be truly asserted that persons who commence smoking or chewing, or snuffing in the early part of their lives, very rarely become drunkards. They crave no other stimulant than the cigar which they can purchase and enjoy without entering a tavern or mingling with bacchanals—it is company in their walks and a consolation amid worldly or domestic

cares. In learning and literature it is a torch to their imaginations and conceptions; and in labour it softens the roughest bands of toil; it gives man patience to bear the heaviest losses, and many an unfortunate, but honest bankrupt, has been saved from acts of desparation and dissipation by lighting some good *Virginia* or Havanah, and singing with the Bard—

"When prosperity flies, and my fickle friends shun me,
And hope's darling light faintly glimmers afar,
When troubles roll o'er me, and creditors dun me,
Still a solace I find in my charming Cigar."—*S. Stcholl.*

NATURAL HISTORY AND CULTIVATION:

It is not generally known that the Tobacco sold in this country in the form of dried leaves, Cigars, and Snuff, is the production of not only one, but of several species of the plant, being mostly annuals and natives of North and South America; but two at least, continue all the year round,—namely, the Shrub, *Nicontiana fructicosa*, a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and of China, and *Nicotiana urens*, a native of South America. It is remarkable that Humboldt found only two of them growing wild in Orooноko. He saw two new species on the mountains of the Andes, at the height of nearly twelve thousand feet above the level of the sea.

The plant which was first known, and which still furnishes the greatest supply of Tobacco is the *Nicotiana tabacum*, (Virginia Tobacco) an annual, a native of South America, yet naturalized in various climates. It is a tall and not inelegant plant, rising to the height of six feet, with a strong erect round, hairy, viscid stem, which branches near the top. The leaves are numerous, and in every known genius of the plant, are somewhat of spear shaped, and clasp the stem; they are of a full green on the upper

surface, and pale on the under. In a healthy plant, the lower leaves are about twenty inches long, and from three to five broad, decreasing in size as they ascend. The flower which blows in July or August, consists of one leaf only, funnel-shaped, and divided at the top into five deep segments, which expand like a star—the ovary becomes a long, roundish, membraneous fruit, which is divided into two cells by an intermediate partition, and is filled with numerous small roundish seeds, which ripen in September or October; and if not collected, are shed by the capsula, or seed vessel, opening at the top.

The cultivation of Tobacco is as follows: the seeds are mostly put into the earth in April*, and are very thickly sown; let the ground for planting be as strong as possible; newly cleared woodland is generally preferred; burn as much brush or other woody field-rubbish as you conveniently can upon the spot, as the nitrogen and potassa which composes the ashes, greatly facilitates the shooting and the growth of the sprouts—let these ashes be well distributed in the ground by means of a rake or a light-harrow—this operation will at the same time render the earth sufficiently mellow to receive the seed, you will next strew your bed with a coat of ashes, laid lightly on, the seed is then sown—in this operation different cultivators use different processes—some blow it from the hand, others spread it through a seive, after which it is gently raked or harrowed into the bed—when the young shoots produced from the seeds attain the height of four or five inches, which is generally about the middle of May, they

* A work entitled the "Husbandman," says, "sow your seed about the first of February, or first of March, a table spoonful is enough for one hundred square yards. Mix about this quantity of seed with a gallon of wood ashes—after sowing, tread the ground, and cover it with brush, or if there is much frost, with manure; chicken's dung sifted through a coarse blanket, is very much prized by some cultivators."

are plucked up and transplanted somewhat after the manner of cabbage, in a field or plat and set in rows about four or five feet apart, and when they become knee high the tops and some of the leaves are cut off, and all sprouts or suckers about the roots are pulled up in order to give full scope to the parent stem, and throw the whole vegetable nourishment into the leaves, at the same time the most careful attention should be paid to the plant, such as hoeing, in order to loosen the earth around the roots, and keep away worms that may infest them—care should also been taken that all caterpillars and other insects be kept from the leaves, to effect this turkies are often let into the Tobacco beds, in order that they may prey upon and destroy all injurious insects, the development of the leaves is prevented by removing the top of each—this operation prevents it from running into seed. The harvest is about the latter part of August or the early part of September, at which time the leaves begin to turn yellow and emit the strong and not unpleasant odour peculiar to the plant. At this stage the stalks are cut off close to the ground, and exposed for a day or two to the solar rays, the operation of cutting should not be continued after the dew commences falling.

PREPARATION AND MANUFACTURE.

The Tobacco house must be so close as to shut out all air—on this, much depends. Each plant is hung up separately, on lines tied across, for the purpose of drying When the stalks begin to turn brown, they are put in a large bin, with heavy weights laid on them for twelve days; then taken out, and stripped of the leaves, which are put again in the bin, and well pressed (so as no air gains admission) for a month. They are then taken out

and tied in bundles of about sixty leaves each, a twisted leaf serving to tie them together. These bundles are now laid in heaps, and sometimes covered with blankets, or straw, to favor a fermentation which takes place in them; but to prevent too great a heat, they are occasionally opened, and spread out in the air. The Tobacco or curing-house, must be well built, and very close and warm. If a boarded building, it will not be amiss, in a wet situation to cover the whole outside with thatch to keep off the damps, for this will preserve the fine volatile oil in the leaves. No smoke is to be made use of, or admitted into the curing-house.

If the Tobacco-leaf is wanted particularly mild, the plants are suffered to branch into a greater variety of sprouts, thereby diffusing the strength. The leaves also, undergo another fermentation, or sweat, in the curing-house, which most considerably ameliorates the rankness, or strength of the weed.

After these various processes, the Tobacco is put into hogsheads, after which it is examined by the lawful inspectors, and if it is approved by them it is thus stamped as fit for transportion and exportation, if otherwise it is ordered to be burned.

In the interior part of America, Tobacco is made up into rolls, by means of a machine, called a Tobacco-wheel. With this machine, they spin the leaves after they are cured, into a twist of any size, they think fit; and having folded it into rolls of about twenty pounds each, they lay it by for use. In this state it will keep for many years, and be continually improving, as it always grows milder. In Illinois it usually forms into carrottes, which is done by laying a number of leaves on each other, after they have been cured, and the ribs taken out—and rolling them round with packthread, till they become cemented together.

These rolls commonly measure about eighteen or twenty inches in length, and nine round the middle part.

A description of a large Cigar manufactory in South America, extracted from Captain Lyons' "Mexico," gives an excellent idea of the method of working. Cigars made there supply the principal part of the Spanish dominions, and a considerable part of North and South America.

"The town of Villa Nueva is neatly built, possesses some good shops, and has a population of 7,000 souls. It is one of the depots of Tobacco, which under the new, as well as the old *regime*, is a strict government monopoly. While the mules were being saddled, Don Jose very obligingly accompanied me to the 'Fabrica,' a large well arranged house, in which four hundred men, and three hnndred and fifty women, are constantly employed in the manufacture of 'Cigarros.' This is the name given to those formed of cut Tobacco, enveloped in paper, while the term 'Puros' is applied to the rolled Tobacco-leaf, which with us, is commonly called a Cigar. Distinct portions of the house, with separate entrances, are appropriated to the sexes, who are distributed in long rooms, having several rows of benches. Each labourer has a small basket, with a certain weight of rasped Tobacco, and sufficient papers ready cut to contain it, when made into Cigars; and when this proportion is disposed of, it is rigorously weighed and registered. From three to four reals is the average price of a day's labour, which commerces at five, A. M., and ends at the same hour in the afternoon. The expedition with which some of the most active people rolled the Cigars was quite extraordinary, and there are many who complete 4,000 in a day. The product of the last four days and a half had been 121,309 'cajas,' or paper parcels, each containing thirty-two Cigars, making a total of 3,881,888, the expenses of working which

was 1,115 dollars; the cajas are sent to the market packed in chests, each containing 4,300 (or 137,600 Cigars.) The distribution of labor at this establishment is very well arranged; from the makers, the Cigars are carried to the counting-room, where they are expeditiously made into cajas, and pasted in a paper bearing the stamped seal of government. The work people are strictly examined, that they introduce neither liquor nor weapons, and both sexes are searched nearly to the skin before retiring for the night, for which purpose female searchers, 'registradoras,' are stationed at one door, and men at the other."

ON CIGARS.

THE QUALITY, CHOOSING OF THEM, &C.

The enemies to smoking, in order to carry their point and alarm the lovers of the Cigar have made some erroneous statements. A number of them assert that the generality of Cigars are made of refuse Tobacco—that they are frequently filled in and even covered with dock or cabbage leaves previously dipped in the juice, or water of Tobocco, urine, &c. Now we shall proceed to show that these assertions bear absurdity, nay, impossibility upon their very faces. In the first place it is well known that our tobacco inspectors will not and dare not put their stamp upon any article unfit for general use; even *supposing* honor out of the question the penalty and danger of detection are too great for them to risk the experiment. Secondly, the above named plants are known to be incapable of receiving any strength or impression from the fluids above mentioned to give them anything like the appearance of tobacco, to say nothing of the great difference in the fibrous structure of the leaves and from the various minute

processes tobacco must undergo in its manufacture. It is evident that no person could be induced to work in any article impregnated with the later fluid; in proof of which a number of manufacturers have readily submitted to such an examination as showed conclusively that no such practices either can or do exist in any department of the vast trade.

If you like a mild cigar, choose one *rather* thicker in the middle than at the ends, without any knots, stalks or veins visible in the outer leaf. A light sienna brown, with many little spots of a bright yellowish-white. These specks are certain marks of goodness, although some persons laugh at this idea, and fancy they are easily made by sprinkling some acid upon the cigar. These marks cannot be made artificially, nor *are they ever discovered upon inferior tobacco;* they are the result of excessive heat, caused by the second fermentation, or sweat, given to the tobacco to insure its mildness and freedom from rancidity. For the same reason, prefer those cigars with a touch of mildew, or green rust, sometimes scarcely perceptible.

As a convincing proof that these spots cannot be *permanently* given to Tobacco, the public are referred to Mr. Accum, the celebrated experimental chemist. An influential tobacconist, aware of the value of these appearances, requested Mr. A. to discover some means for their artificial production; this appeared easy, and was readily promised; but after several experiments and weeks of procrastinated delay, Mr. Accum was compelled to confess his inability to produce fictitious appearances of these beauty-spots upon the Tobacco leaf.

The strong or full-flavored Cigars are much darker in their appearance, and seldom so thick in the middle as the mild Cigars. The jackets are always coarser, sand-rough, and stick-like in their feel.

Many people pretend to judge of the quality of a Cigar by the whiteness of the ashes; this is a vulgar error. The best Cigars, if smoked in the open air, will frequently burn black; the effects of the wind preventing the ashes from being little more than half consumed. Now a bad Cigar, if slowly and equally smoked, may have ashes of excelling whiteness. Much depends upon the method of smoking, the newness of the Cigar, or its greater or lesser exposure to the air. The tenacity of the ashes shows that the Cigar has been well rolled, and that the fillers are good, and not made up with smalls. The ashes of fine Cigars are frequently saved for tooth powder, and from their abstergent quality, are highly beneficial where the teeth evince a propensity to decay.

When you are selecting a Cigar from the tobacconist's box, do not roughly rattle them about, and so crush or squeeze some half dozen before you make your choice. If they are of a good old age, dry, and crisp, you will injure them materially. Be assured, that after you have done this once or twice, the tobaconist will never trust you near his choice Havanna's again. You will have a box of moist, new trash offered you, as a very proper requital for this boyish conduct. Look over the box as you would any other collection of beauties, rather attentively, and make your choice with your eyes; or turn over the Cigars gently with your finger, till you meet with one that pleases you. When this is known to be your habit, you will often be favored with a choice from some private box of the very finest, taken from under the counter, or some snug corner, perfectly safe from the nose of the parvenu, or the digits of the rough and grasping.

SMOKING.

The dark-eyed daughters of Spain are great adepts at smoking; and have been known to take the Cigarro from between 'the parted coral of their lips,' and insert it in the mouth of a gallant, as a special mark of endearment. How different to many, too many of our American ladies—they consider the luxury of smoking as a dirty, filthy, habit. Many smokers deserve this censure by indulging in profuse expectoration, in scattering their ashes about, and by various revolting suckings and lickings of their Cigars. It is not necessary to spit at all, while smoking; and all persons can easily break themselves of this custom, if they please. Whenever you feel inclined to spit, sip a little liquid of some sort, (coffee is best.) Repeat this attentively for a few days, and you will soon cease to think of spitting at all, and the enjoyment of the flavour of your Cigar will be increased.

Never indulge in that too general but beastly habit of licking your Cigar all over, as a boy would serve a pound cake ornament. If the Cigar is well rolled, licking is not required; if broken, all the saliva in the world will not mend it—on the contrary, be very likely to make it burn in an uneven manner—to render one side more susceptible of the advances of its natural enemy, moisture; and cause one part to be flaming like a torch, while the other is hard and crackled like the shell of a roasted chesnut; to give it all the rankness of a new Cigar, and make it burn with a black, unseemly ash. The only possible result of this slobbering trick is this:—when you have sucked out one half the virtue of the outside leaf, filling your mouth with Tobacco water, and imbuing your taste with the very worst qualities of the weed, you are expected to judge of the delicacy of the smoke from your soddened and abused

Havanna. When sucking the tip, the preponderating potency of the smoke prevents the acrid taste of the leaf being observed. Why should smokers object to new or damp Cigars, if they moisten a dry and good one previous to ignition? A wet day will have a detrimental effect on all Cigars; what, then, must be the result of this moistening? Mrs. Woodville, in her first letter to the trade, remarks that "It is absolutely necessary, after opening a box to let them remain exposed to the air at least three days in dry, and six days in moist weather, before they are in a proper condition for smoking."

Some people pretend to do wonders, by advising us to keep on the twist end. This is sheer nonsense. If you remove the twist, nucleus, nose, or naval—for it is called by all these—your Cigar will smoke instanter; and let any tobacconist answer if it is possible otherwise to *ensure* any Cigar drawing well. The only chance of obtaining a draft, must be from a defect in the make, or stalk-like nature of the fillers; for it stands to reason, that if well filled and properly rolled, smoke cannot be obtained without a vent. "Oh! but you are to thrust the Cigar half or two-thirds into your mouth, *suck lustily*, to open its pores." This filthy trick is but a sort of curtailed edition of the lip-lapping affair, and must produce the same unpleasant taste. To enjoy a Cigar, there is no occasion for your mouth to possess the sucking capacity of the Hurlgate whirlpool. Take off the twist, light your Cigar, insert about half an inch, or an inch at most, inhale gently, and the smoke will flow in clear delicious streams, free from all impurity, and regulated in quantity by the force of your inhalings.

The East Indians and South Americans smoke nothing but Cheroots—now Cheroots have no twists. What, then, becomes the objection to remove it from the Cigar? if, when deprived of the twist, the end is likely to be unrolled,

it must be by the action of the tongue-tip, which really has no business with the Cigar at all; the tongue should only revel and rollock about in the luxury of the smoke. The retaining pressure should be entirely labial, and that but slightly used. Snap your fingers, then, at these nucleus-loving gents. Choose your Cigar—bite off the twist end—ignite—and inhale. Take care, if possible, that the end of your Cigar is equally lighted all round. Never light from an oil lamp, or a fetid smell will pervade the Cigar, and totally annihilate the aroma. There is nothing better than the Chinese Jostic, or a strip of folded paper.

Young smokers should remember that they cannot inhale too gently, after the fire has once fast hold of the Cigar. It is the effect of the smoke upon the palate which you are to enjoy. Do not puff in short and sudden jerks, like the vent of a steam-boiler, or pour forth a volume of smoke like the chimney of the gas works. Let the vapor come forth like "airs from heaven, not blasts from——," the other place. The ambrosial flavor is only to be detected by letting the smoke gradually trickle, as it were, between the tongue and palate.

The mode of Smoking Tobacco, was known in America at the period of its discovery by Columbus, and so higly prized that, like the Olive, the *Calumet* was the symbol of peace and concord*. It has been supposed that smoking was unknown in the Old World before the discovery of America, but Mr. Brodigan has advanced the following evidence against this supposition:—"Herodotus, in lib. 1

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* The Calumet, or pipe of peace, is a large Tobacco pipe with a bulb of polished marble, and a stem two feet and a half long, made of a strong reed, adorned with feathers and lock's of women's hair. When it is used in treaties and embassies, the Indians fill the Calumet, with the best Tobacco, and presenting it to those with whom they have concluded any great affair, smoke out of it after them."—*Harris's Voyages*, fol, 1705, vol. ii. p. 908.

s. 36. asserts that the Massagetæ, and all the Scythic nations, had among them certain herbs which they threw into the fire, on the smoke ascending, the company seated round the fire, began to dance and sing."† Strabo, in lib. vii. 196, also says that "they had a religious order amongst them, who frequently smoked for recreation, which, according to Pomponius Mela, a geographical writer in the time of Claudius, and Solins, c. 15. they received through tubes." The ancient Scythæ smoked narcotic herbs through wooden and earthen tubes; and Mr. Brodigan states, that in the year 1784, some labourers digging at Brannockston, in the county of Killdare, a spot where a battle was fought in the tenth century between the Irish and Danes, discovered an ancient "Tobacco pipe sticking between the teeth of a human skull." Many similar pipes which were of course earthen-ware, lay scattered among the bones in the stone coffins. But, although the word tobacco-pipe is employed by Mr. Brodigan, yet there is no evidence to prove that the pipes found on this occasion, which have also been dug up in England, and attributed to the Danes, were used with Tobacco. These facts, however, are sufficient to prove, that smoking herbs with a pipe is a very ancient custom. The *Cigar* or *Cheerots* appears to have been first used in the East Indies.

The soothing influence of a pipe has proved so agreea-

‡ It is curious to trace the similarity of customs in different countries and eras of the world. In a report on Virginia, written by Thomas Heriot, servant to Sir Walter Raleigh, we find the following account of Tobacco.—"This uppowoc is of so precious estimation amongst them, that they think their gods are marvellously delighted therewith; whereupon they make hallowed fires, and cast some of the powder therein for sacrifice. Being in a storme upon the waters, to pacify their gods they cast some up into the air and into the water; so a weare for fish being newly set up, they cast some therein and into the air; and also after an escape of danger, they caste some into the air likewise; but all done with strange gestures, stamping, sometimes dancing, clapping of hands, holding up of hands, and staring up into the heavens, uttering therewithall, and chattering strange words and noises."—*See Hakluyt's Voyages*, fol. Lond. 1810. vol. iii. p. 324.

ble to men of philosophic and contemplative minds, that smoking may almost be designated the past time of the sage. Sir Isaac Newton, Hooker, and many other scientific and literary men, might be named as proofs of the truth of this assertion. But on those unaccustomed to it, smoking at first produces unpleasant effects. Sometimes these symptoms quickly subside, on removing from the atmosphere of the smoking-room Gmelin has related a fatal case of excessive smoking, in which eighteen pipes were smoked at a sitting. It is nevertheless, well known that some German professors are in the habit of smoking, daily, from fifteen to eighteen pipes, with impunity.

The Tobacco most prized for smoking is that reared in Cuba and on the Rio Negro; that of Cumana is the most aromatic. The Havanna cigars are esteemed in every part of the world where smoking is indulged. The Tobacco chiefly employed by the lower classes, is the produce of Virginia; though some of the finest qualties are now raised in this state; some most excellent Tobacco is also produced in Maryland. The commoner kinds are generally the produce of Brazil and Santa Cruz. Tobacco grown in the East Indies is not much esteemed. The produce of the Levant is mild and weak, with a sweet or honey-like flavor.

Epicures in Cigar Smoking generally prefer the Havanna's, which at this time, are exactly worth their weight in silver in the London market; they are various in name and quality; the following is a list, the variety of which bear the Havanna brand:—

Castellos.	Trabucos.	Imperials.	Larranago.
Casadores.	Principes.	Canones.	Legitimo.
Regalia.	Colorados.	El Moro.	Constantia's.
Ugues.	Dosimegos.	Columbias.	Cabanas.

In additional to the above we have our Spanish, Half-Spanish, and Common American.

CHEWING.

The origin of this custom has not been traced, but it probably sprung from the desire to extract from the entire Tobacco a substitute for the fermented juice, the *moo*. At this day, the women in the province of Varinas, carry this inspissated liquid in "a small box," which they wear like a watch, suspended to one side at the end of a string. Instead of a key, it is furnished with a little spoon, with which they help themselves from time to time, of this juice, relishing it in their mouths, like a sweetmeat." Chewing Tobacco is practised by *all* classes of society throughout the United States; but in other countries it is more confined to the lower classes, and sea-faring men, whose avocations do not always permit the means of smoking, and who cannot afford to snuff. Habit enables many chewers to swallow the saliva with impunity, although the strong infusion introduced into the alimentary canal, is a virulent sedative poison. The saliva of a chewer of Tobacco, when swallowed, affects the stomach nearly in the same manner as opium, taking off the sensation of hunger, and enabling those who indulge in it to sustain the want of provisions for a great length of time. An anecdote, strikingly illustrative of this fact, was related to the author of this notice by an old gentleman, who, in the early part of his life, was employed in collecting furs, in North America:—Having, with his party, by some accident, lost his path in the woods; the provisions were exhausted, when he fortunately encountered three Indians who were, also, engaged in hunting. He solicited some provisions from them; but was informed they had none, He then begged for some Tobacco. Alas! there was only one solitary quid in the company, and that was half masticated; but, with the feeling of true benevolence, the Indian took

it from his mouth, divided it, and presented one half to the Englishman, who accepted it; and declared that it was the sweetest morsel he had ever enjoyed. The Tobacco for chewing is Shag Tobacco, cut from Richmond Tobacco, being first wetted, and afterwards dried in a hot pan. What is termed Roll Tobacco is formed into a cord, of a moderate thickness, by depriving a leaf of its veins, moistening it, and after pressing it in a powerful press, so as to extend the oil over the whole equally, twisting it, or, as it is termed, spinning it.

"Let them boast of their brandy, their wine, rum and gin,
They're the parents of idleness, misery, and sin,
But a *Quid* does the soul's kindest feelings enlist,
And there's food and philosophy in the sweet *Twist*,
And the pith of life's pleasure's are centred so snug,
In the soft leafy charms of the *Fine Cut* and *Plug*."

Among the uses of Tobacco as a luxury, that of *Chewing*, is, perhaps, the most prevalent throughout the United States, therefore a few remarks in addition to what we have already presented may not be deemed amiss.

Chewing of Tobacco is found by persons of undoubted experience to be a preservative of the teeth, and as such it is entitled to great consideration. There are certain practices peculiar to many chewers to which we will take the liberty of refering—The first is the profuse discharge of tobacco juice, or the habit of excessive and vulgar spitting —the enemies of tobacco are very severe upon this practice and with some justice, for why should a reasonable creature, while enjoying his cavendish, cast the juice thereof in offensive pools about him, when with a little care and attention he may extract its virtues *gracefully*, with pleasure to himself and without offense to his neighbour. If you are in company and desire a *quid*, take a small portion and deposite it neatly between your masticators, and do not lap it down about your lips as a child does molasses

candy, nor roll it from cheek to cheek like a ship in a swell; "but use all gently," and you will soon "acquire a temperance that may give it smoothness," thus you will scarcely feel a desire to spit, as having but a small quantity of the leaf under mastication, the draughts upon the salivary glands will be necessarily light, and you can enjoy the sweets of your weed without the desire to void its juices and without the risk of annoying your companions by making constant deposites in the spitton, at the same time and by the same means, having your tongue free from all that incumbrance, ordinarily caused by a profusion of the ground up plant, you can give vent to your bright ideas inspired by the gentle stimulant

"Without impediment,"

and with musical distinctness, instead of the frog-like-tones which often characterise the utterance of the excessive and *inelegant* chewer. An ancient poet says—

"What e'er we do, we surely can with grace,"

With a little attention to the above precautions, the *Chewer* will be enabled to indulge in his favorite enjoyment without exposure to the least reproof or ridicule, and without suffering the smallest inconvenience or discount upon his pleasure, however much he may mingle with society—With regard to substitutes in cases of deprivation, we believe chamomile flowers are deemed by far the best.

The following are the names of the various preparations of Tobacco for chewing:

Cavendish is the kind mostly in use; it is universally liked; and comes from Virginia, where nearly every variety of chewing Tobacco is manufactured.

Tobacco-Shag, or Long-Cut, is the strongest and purest portion of the Virginia leaf. It derives its name from being cut but once, the long way of the leaf. We have

also the Cavandish which comes from Virginia, from which a variety of smoking and chewing tobacco is manufactured.

Short-Cut, or Returns.—The same sort of Tobacco, and formerly cut twice, or into shorter shreds, by being returned into the mill, after the first cutting, and cut again. It is now the lighter portion of the cuttings of Shag.

Twist, or Pigtail.—The coarse leaves twisted into shape with Molasses; used principally in the navy, and by seafaring men; but the preparation is gradually giving place to the better qualities.

Varinas.—A rich, mellow-tasted Tobacco, but mild; much the same flavor as the Havanna Cigars. The Varinas are not much known; and the difficulty experienced in procuring the *genuine* article has operated against their general use; to have this *genuine, buy it in the roll.*

Ell Cham.—A very fine, mild flavored Tobacco, but little known.

Fine Persian, or Tobacco of Shiraz.—A delicious article when really good, but very difficult to obtain.

Dutch C'naster.—A variety of the Varinas, cut, packed, and much used in Holland.

Maracaibo.—A remarkably fine flavored American Tobacco, cut like C'naster; and becoming more and more in use.

Oronooko.—The mildest American Tobacco.

The following is a list of the various preparations of Tobacco for chewing:—

BROWN'S ROSE LEAF.
MRS. MILLER'S FINE CUT.
MAYLAND'S FINE CUT.
CAVENDISH.
HARE'S OLD.
VIRGINIA SHAG.
ROANOAKE.
LADIES' TWIST.
PIG TAIL.
COARSE PLUG.

SNUFFING.

Snuff.——"Oh, how it tingles up
The titillated nose, and fills the eyes
And breast, till, in one comfortable sneeze,
The full-collected pleasure bursts at last."

"He first the Snuff-box open'd, then the case."
Pope's Rape of the Lock.

If smoking has been carried to excess, snuff taking has been still more abused; although it is questionable, whether any cases of death ever occurred from taking too much snuff.

A collection of snuffs from various parts of the world, and the history of them, would form a singular specimen of ingenuity idly exercised, in carrying the form and quality of a powder, merely intended for the titillation of one set of nerves. In this country, the snuffs, like the varieties of Sheep and Geraniums, may all be traced to one stock; the Rapee, which derives its name from having been originally produced, by rasping what is called a carrot of Tobacco. To form this, the leaves of Tobacco freed from their stems and veins are fermented and pressed closely together into the shape of a spindle, and retained in that shape by cords wound around them. Scotch snuff, which is also the basis of many Snuffs, is made from Tobacco, with the midrib and veins left in the leaves, which are first fermented, then dried before a strong fire, and afterwards ground in mills, resembling a large mortar and pestle.

It would be useless to mention half the Snuffs that are in fashion. The Rapee and the Scotch Snuff are the bases of the greatest number of them, the variety of flavor being communicated by the admixture of different proportions of the three following:—*Seville* snuff, the best Spanish made from the Cuba Tobacco, *Macaba*, made from the Tobacco grown on the banks of the Maracaibo, in Venezuela, and called *Tobaco de Sacerdotes;* and *Masuli-*

patam, made from the very broad leaved Tobacco; but of what species it is, the writer of these notices is ignorant.

Long before the introduction of Tobacco, sneezing powders of sternutatories were in vogue. These had been medicinally employed since the time of Hippocrates; and the use of them had degenerated into habit with the Irish and some other nations. If the description of a fop, by Shakspeare, in his play of Henry the Fourth, refers to Cephalic powder, the custom, also prevailed in England:—

> "He was perfumed like a milliner,
> And 'twixt his finger and his thumb he held
> A pouncet-box, which ever and anon
> He gave his nose."

Be this as it may, soon after the introduction of Tobacco into England it was very generally employed in the form of snuff by both sexes; and was allowed even in the royal presence. The gallants of those days, indeed, seem to have been as extravagant in their snuff boxes, as particular in the nature of their contents, and as affected in the use of them as the silliest of our modern fops.

The custom of raising the snuff with a spoon to the nostrils was not confined, however, to the fop and the courtier; for, as appendages attached to the mull of the Scotch highlander, we find not only a spoon, but also a hare's foot, to brush the snuff from the upper-lip, indicating the excess to which this indulgence was carried. The quantity of snuff taken by many octogenarians of the present day is almost incredible, and only exceeded by the excesses of some of their early contemporaries who have gone before them. The late Arthur Murphy carried his snuff in his waistcoat pocket, and used it wholesale; and I have known many literary men, who emptied three or four large boxes in a day. Nor has the profuse use of snuff been confined to philosophers and literary men. The greatest generals have in the heat of battle used the powder of tobacco,

to enable them to stand the powder of the enemy. Napoleon carried it open in a pocket made for the purpose; and when the patriotic Hofer met his fate, his snuff-box was the last thing he parted with, save his life. It will be recollected that the philosophic monarch, Frederick the Great, acknowledged that some of his happiest ideas were called forth by a pinch from his favorite box. As in the abuse of opium and wine, the indulgence in snuff increases the desire for it, until the habit becomes too deeply fixed to be eradicated; indeed, the power which the animal system possesses of accommodating itself to the excitation of artificial stimulants, is well illustrated by the effects of snuff on the sensitive nerves of the olefactory organ.

In the oldest books of medicine extant, we find many highly valued receipts for the manufacture of Snuffs from divers herbs, &c., which according to the opinion of the time, possessed almost as many valuable properties as were ascribed to the philosopher's stone. What meagre diet! what trash wherewith to insult your nasal palate—to outrage the sense of smelling with the ambrosia of sickly majoram, or the causticity of dried lavender! Thank heaven, we live in better times; and in airing our Snuff-box, in whose magic circle is concentred the mysteries of the only true fellowship, we are enabled to exhibit a pinch of the titillating high-dried, the delicate Martinique, or the pungent brain-searching Rapee.

There is a ridiculous caprice existing, and even on the increase among snuff takers, of purchasing their Snuffs perfectly dry. Some use them in this state; others moisten them just before use. Every one, possessing the least experience, must be well aware that Snuffs kept in a moderete state of moisture for a considerable time, acquire double the flavor they posessed when dry.

SNUFF BOXES.

THE BEST METHOD OF KEEPING SNUFF.

Papier-machee, or wooden Snuff-boxes, by being bad conductors of caloric, are decidedly the best for preserving the virtues of the Snuff. Avoid all metallic substances, for metal being an excellent conductor of heat, is at the same time an admirable destroyer of Snuff. For this reason, never leave your box on the mantel-piece over night; or at all events, if you do so, avoid complaining of your Snuff in the morning, as in that case it is the Snuff taker and not the Snuff maker that is to be blamed.

If you look farther than the mere enjoyment of the day, and purchase a quantity whenever you meet with a good sort of Snuff, choose a cool but not damp room to keep it in—there is no objection to a stone floor. Stone jars, especially if glazed on the inside, are very excellent articles. Once at least, in the course of a year, run your stock through a sieve; and if it requires moistening, use a little plain salt and water, rub it well together, and pass it through a sieve. There is no fear of meeting the fate of the unfortunate Lavosier, the first chemist in Europe, who was guillotined in 1794, for mixing water in his snuff. He was farmer-general of Tobacco, and arrested upon this slight pretext, was executed without a trial, about a year and a half after he had seen his royal master Louis XIV. take a pinch of his favorite "Tabac," while walking to the guillotine.

Snuff boxes, ornamental, national, poetical, patriotic and political, can be had in every variety at the Tobacconists.

Remember that course Snuffs are generally the most genuine. All high-dried Snuffs are particularly good for the head-ache; there are now several Snuffs manufactured for the Eye: of which Grimstone's Eye-Snuff; Turner's Aromatic Scotch, and the Malta Exotic, are the best.

COFFEE AND CIGARS.

"And Mocha's berry from Arabia pure"

With all our love for Cigars we do not give them fair play in this country—we are too much in the habit while smoking of relaxing our palates with the most disgusting potations. The old song seems ever ringing in our ears—"with my pipe in one hand and my glass in the other." Ale, beer, or some preparation of *alchohol* must generally accompany, and thereby destroy the flavor of our Tobacco—and many persons are so accustomed to the mixture that it would be vain to attempt a reform. But a smoker should drink but seldom, and then only Coffee. There is an old Persian proverb, that "Tobacco without Coffee is like meat without salt," and it is true. In England it has become a general custom to take coffee exclusively with Cigars. This custom has greatly contributed towards the promotion of temperance throughout the kingdom; and were it once established in the United States, the practice would soon become universal. Coffee is the only fluid that can add to the innocent luxury of a Cigar, or enable us to properly appreciate its virtues. How frequently do we see men pretending to be judges of Cigars, and talking loudly of their selection of Havannas, smother even the imagination of taste in champagnes, toddies or cock-tails. Why, you cannot tell whether you are smoking a long-nine, or the most delicious regalia—the tastes do not assimilate. As well may you give your opinion on a peach after eating a crab apple. If you must have drink and cannot conveniently obtain coffee, try claret, or mead, the use of the latter beverage with the Cigar is becoming quite fashionable in New York. It is by far preferable to intoxicating drinks, but in no way comparable with coffee. A recent traveller in the East

says, "I do not wonder at the general use of this most indispensable of Turkish luxuries (Tobacco;) *it is always the companion of coffee;* and there is something so exceedingly congenial in the properties of both, that nature seems to have intended them for inseparable associates. We do not know how to use Tobacco in this country, but defile and deteriorate it with malt and other liquors. When used with Coffee, and after the Turkish fashion, it is singularly grateful to the taste, and refreshing to the spirits; counteracting the effects of fatigue and cold, and appeasing the cravings of hunger, as I have experienced. Hearne, we think, in his journey to the mouth of Coppermine river, mentions his experience of similar effects of Tobacco. He had been wandering without food for five or six days in the most inclement weather, and supported it all, he says, in good health and spirits, by smoking Tobacco, and wetting his mouth with a little snow.

Why do not the enterprising proprietors of our splendid Cigar establishments, and our Ice Cream Saloons furnish their patrons with apartments supplied with Coffee and Cigars? such an invaluable addition to their establishments would greatly increase their business and their profit, and be the cream of enjoyment to many of our citizens.

CHINESE JOSTIC.

The best, the very best, and most agreeable light for Cigars. It is really a Chinese composition, partly camel's dung and sand, commingled with some delicious perfume. This jostic or Joss-stick, is a stick of pastile, used as incense in their temples, and burnt in metal tripods before the great Joss, or God—hence the name. These lights are kept burning night and day. At sunset a bunch of these joss-sticks is lighted at the door of every house in Canton, to protect the inmates from the visits of evil spirits.

Nothing can be more delightful than to keep a jostic alight all night in your room. An agreeable odour is diffused, and when once alight the jostic will never go out; yet there is no danger as to setting any thing on fire. It burns with a smouldering fire, slowly and steadily, and will ignite a match when light may be required.

LONDON CIGAR DIVANS.

Where it possible for the illustrious Raleigh to revisit the "pale glimpse of the moon," how would he revel in the congenialities of the Cigar Divans. How the social spirit of the mighty discoverer would delight in witnessing the general and true enjoyment of the Indian weed, in these modern combinations of elegance and ease; and sitting joyously down in some snug corner of the Divan, enveloping himself in the fumes of his own beloved plant, and sipping "the drink which cheers, but not inebriates," would yield to the soothing influence of this charming place, where healthy refreshment, mental recreation, and Sybarite voluptuousness are so deliciously blended. His imagination enraptured with the glorious fruits of his early ambition, would take its rapid flight to his loved land of Tobacco; and, with a retrospective glance, compare the past with the present—a pathless wilderness with patriots, pipes and philosophy, till charmed with the happy results of his enterprise, he would in a burst of joyous exultation join in the native melody of his children, and sing

"Ole Virginia never tyre."

To a bachelor, the comforts and accommodation of the Divan are inestimable; in one moment he is installed in all the happiness of domesticity. To the married man, who finds objections to the enjoyment of a Cigar at his own fire-side, they must be particularly agreeable.

The first Divan in England was opened by Mr. Gliddon, in King street, Covent Garden, in the year 1825.

This elegant room is nearly seventy feet in length, and by a judicious arrangement in the painting, gives the visitor an opinion that he is reposing in a splendid building, supported by fluted columns of Sienna marble, with large open spaces between, guarded by fret-work balconies, and looking cut upon the country beyond. This is composed of a variety of beautiful landscapes, painted in imitation of our most celebrated artists. The cornices are enveloped in rich crimson draperies, hanging in luxuriant folds; this excellent arrangement gives great effect to the pictures, which appear between. The farther end of the room is occupied by three magnificent mirrors, between which are placed classic vases, copied from Canova, upon verd-antique pedestals. Another beautiful mirror is hung over one of the fire-places, and several splendid porcelain vases ornament the mantel-piece. The whole of the room is covered with a handsome green carpet and furnished with every variety of ottomans and Grecian couches, of the most lounge-inciting shapes; chairs covered with crimson damask; tables of all descriptions, from the immense circular rose-wood, with marble centre, to the small but elegant chess-stand. The Divan is lighted by five tasteful chandeliers, with cut-glass drops; besides a splendid one of eight burners in ground glass shades. The method of ventilation is superior, and insures an equal temperature at all times. In summer, the centre mirror at the farther end of the room is removed, and a doorway appears, leading into a spacious garden well laid out, with awnings or verandahs, placed over several grotesque-looking settees, and forming a delicious shelter from the heat of the sun. This rustic promenade is illuminated at night by several painted Chinese lapms, and affords a capital opportunity for enjoying a real

Havanna in the open air, encircled with ruralities not to be met with in any other part of London.

This Divan has lately been considerably enlarged, and re-decorated at a great expense.

The entrance money is one shilling, (twenty-five cents) —for this you are provided with a peculiar-shaped pot of very fine mocha coffee, milk and sugar; and one of the best Havannas anywhere obtainable. It is but fair to add, that upon the tables, you discover draft and chess-boards and men, with every possible description of periodicals, from the ponderous quarterlies to the sprightly hebdomadaries; with *all* the London papers, weekly, daily, or evening, and many provincial and foreign journals. This is also the case, with trifling exceptions, at all the Divans in London.

Having given the reader a full account of the Divan in England, we feel confident that he will perceive and acknowledge its vast utility as a promoter of our social and innocent enjoyments, and feel anxious for the establishment of similar institutions in our own country. Let a public accommodation of this kind be once known to our citizens, and we feel assured that it will meet the approbation and patronage of every lover of morality, temperance and useful intelligence—it will make fewer grop shops, and more virtue and philosophy mingled with patriotism, not that vociferous and bubble-like heat inspired by alcohol, not

> Such as flashes
> From the fierce demagogue's unthinking rage,
> To madden for a moment and expire—

but such as pure principles and sober reflection pour into the soul and which becomes a part of its immortal essence.

We have been satirically termed "a nation of smokers," Yet what people do not smoke as much as we in proportion to their means of obtaining Tobacco? English travellers

have ridiculed our love of Tobacco, yet so great is the partiality of their own countrymen for the prepared plant, that they actually pay an annual duty of more than three million of pounds sterling; or about fifteen millions of dollars on its importation—showing most conclusively what a "*nation of smokers*" *they* would be if they possessed our facilities, and that their love for the "*noxious weed*" as one of their writers term it, is equal to, if not greater than our own. But let us have a Cigar Divan,—we deserve to be called a *nation*, and of smokers if you like, when we enjoy its virtues in a temperate and rational manner.

Then think if old Horace were here with us now,
How he'd smoke till the vapour surrounding his head;
The chaplet of laurel would fall from his brow,
And the leaves of Tobacco be seen there instead.

The pen of the bard would become a Cigar,
And think, then, oh, think how he'd praise the Divan;
Till Elysium were poor to the place where we are,
Our beverage all nectar—a God every man.

For long ere the weed which we love was found out,
Unknown tho' its charms—undiscovered its joys,
Untasted the fragrance its leaves throw about;
Yet a bard sings its praise—*Io Bacche*, my boys.

THE CIGAR.

THE END.